

Inside Wallops

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Decoys and Rockets Require Attention to Detail

An article in the current (May-June 2008) edition of *Hunting & Fishing Collectibles Magazine* features Steve Skees, in the Wallops Safety Office.

According to the article, "Ira Steven Skees: Rocket Man and Decoy Carver", you don't have to be a rocket scientist to be a successful decoy carver. The article goes on to explain the benefits when you just happen to be both.

The Chairman of the Mechanical Engineering School at Old Dominion University approached Skees during his senior year and asked if he liked to fish and hunt and mentioned that there was an opening for an engineer at NASA Wallops Flight Facility.

At that time, Skees had no idea what fishing and hunting had to do with NASA.

Upon learning that Wallops and the surrounding area was a sportsmen's paradise, he applied for the job.

It was on one of these trips that his youngest son remarked it was time to start hunting over something better than the motley rig of plastic decoys they had been using. This remark ultimately inspired Skees to carve a "flock" of his own.



Skees with his award winning decoys.

Over the years, Skees has developed a unique style of carving that has two sides; antique and contemporary.

Working in the sounding rocket program for a number of years, Skees learned you have to study details. This carries over into his passion for carving.

"Attention to surface and form, an eye for detail and the ability to conduct research in areas one wouldn't normally associate with decoy carving and painting, has served me well over the years," said Skees.

The article also features photos of many of Skees award winning carvings.

Florence Smith, Chief of the Safety Office

Florence (Patton) Smith comes to Wallops from NASA's Kennedy Space Center (KSC) with a wealth of experience in programmatic and institutional safety.

At KSC she was senior systems safety engineer in the Safety and Mission Assurance Integration Branch.

Among many other duties she was the KSC focal point for the NASA Safety Reporting System, a direct liaison to NASA Headquarters on safety related issues and concerns, and chaired the KSC Ground Risk Review Panel.

One of her prime tasks was to coordinate, monitor and integrate the Center wide Programmatic and Institutional Safety Programs.

Wallops is not new to Smith. Before her assignment at KSC she was in the Wallops Safety Office where she was a Ground and Flight Systems Safety Engineer. She performed both ground and flight safety analyses and testing for flight vehicles and payloads.

Smith was a certified Range Safety Officer and was involved in many Wallops missions including the first Pegasus launched from here, the sounding rocket thunderstorm series and the Navy Vandal Program.

She also performed as the Shuttle Small Payloads Safety Manager supporting GAS, SEM and HitchHiker payloads on the shuttle.



Steve Skees at work in NASA Wallops Safety Office.

Relocating to the Eastern Shore, Skees often took his young sons with him on hunting trips.

To read the entire article contact Skees at x1097 or by email: ira.s.skees@nasa.gov



"People who fight fire with fire usually end up with ashes".....
Abigail van Buren

Lost or Stolen Laptop Computers

All employees are responsible for safeguarding laptop computers, removable storage devices, and electronic information stored on these devices.

Recent findings by the NASA Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office indicate that employee negligence is a significant contributing factor in the loss or theft of laptop computers and removable storage devices.



All NASA employees have a personal responsibility for safeguarding government property issued to them. An employee may be held financially liable for the loss, damage, or destruction of government property when the loss, damage, or destruction is due to the employee's negligence, dishonesty, misconduct, or misuse of such property.

If you are unsure as to your responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of government property and/or electronic information, contact your respective Property Custodians or IT Security Managers, or refer to the following NPD and NPRs.

- * NPD 4200.1B, Equipment Management;
- * NPR 2810.1A, Security of Information Technology;
- * NPR 1600.1, Classified National Security and Sensitive but Unclassified (SBU) Information Management; and
- * NPR 1382.1, NASA Privacy Procedural Requirements

2008 Atlantic Storm Names

The 2008 hurricane season began June 1 and runs through November 30. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is predicting above normal activity this year with the possibility of as many as 16 named storms and five major hurricanes. The following is a list of names selected for the 2008 season.

Arthur	Hanna	Omar
Bertha	Ike	Paloma
Cristobal	Josephine	Rene
Dolly	Kyle	Sally
Edouard	Laura	Teddy
Fay	Marco	Vicky
Gustav	Nana	Wilfred

Wallops Debedeavon Toastmasters Club Awards Ceremony and Membership Drive

June 4
11:30 a.m.
Bldg. E-2, Williamsburg Room

Join your friends and coworkers and help celebrate their achievements in public speaking and leadership. This is a brown bag event.



For more information, contact Micaela Barnhill at x1641.

Managing Conflict Creatively A Lunch & Learn with Peggy Swan of Accomac Family Counseling

June 9
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Bldg E-2, Williamsburg Room



Learn to manage conflict in almost any situation, ways to resolve conflicts more productively and how to prevent them from happening in the first place.

The focus will be on common workplace situations and some home situations where conflicts arise.

June 14 is NASA Day at Kings Dominion

Tickets are available at the Exchange Store, Bldg. E-2

Regular (Ages 3-61 at least 48" tall)
BEFORE June 5 - \$37
AFTER June 5 - \$39

Junior (Ages 61+ or under 48" tall)
BEFORE June 5 - \$31
AFTER June 5 - \$33

Under 3 years FREE

Admission Includes Lunch:
Roasted Chicken, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers
Assorted Chips, Pasta Salad,
Soft Drinks, Iced Tea, Ice Cream
Condiments and Rolls

Contact Karen Shannon at x2020 for more information.

Blood Bank of Delmarva

Blood Drive
June 11
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Bldg. F-3, Rocket Club



You do not have to be a Blood Bank member to donate. You may donate for someone else. Ask the scheduler about this option. They will welcome walk-ins.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-553-8819. For more information, call the Health Unit at x1266.

On the Road

Shane Dover, NASA Aircraft Office, participated in a career day event at Pocomoke (Md) Middle School on May 29.

Berit Bland, BBCO, conducted student activities at the May Fest at Chincoteague (Va.) Elementary School on May 30.

Rebecca Powell, NASA Public Affairs Office, staffed a display for Space Night on May 30 at Seaside Christian School, Ocean City, Md.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Public Affairs Office, x1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found at: <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/news/newsletters.html>

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